

Appl. No. : 10/775,882

Response to the Office Action of April 2, 2007

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4 stand rejected, are pending and at issue. As an initial matter, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for withdrawing the previous rejection as well as the finality of the previous Office Action.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Applicants' admitted prior art ("AAPA") in view of Bender. The Office Action correctly acknowledges that AAPA fails to disclose that the bridge transmits an acknowledgement frame to the repeater and the repeater will not forward the acknowledgement frame to the source station. To overcome this deficiency, the Office Action attempts to combine Bender with AAPA. The Office Action alleges that Bender discloses a repeater that does not forward data to a source station, but forwards the data to the new access point which forwards the data to the terminal.

However, at column 10, lines 11-21, Bender discloses that the access terminal 110 was previously connected to both access points 220A and 220B simultaneously as shown in Figure 7A. Subsequently, the link between terminal 110 and access point 220A was terminated as shown in Figure 8B. Therefore, the network disclosed in Bender is quite different from that recited in the present claims and in AAPA. Moreover, the combination of Bender with AAPA would render the network inoperable for the purpose of transmitting frames from the sources station to the bridge since the link between the source station (access terminal) and the repeater (access point 220A) is terminated. Furthermore, at column 10, line 17, Bender describes a soft hand-off. This disclosure instead teaches that the acknowledgement is sent to the same access point to which the data transfer corresponds. For the above reasons, the combination of Bender

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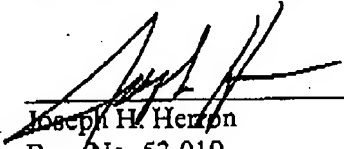
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with AAPA is improper. Therefore, the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 4 should be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Applicants respectfully reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 4 and allowance of the case. If any fees are due in connection with this application, the Patent Office is authorized to deduct the fees from Deposit Account No. 19-1351. If such withdrawal is made, please indicate the attorney docket number (33038-407500) on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent Via Facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. 571-273-8300) on July 31, 2007.



Registered Attorney for Applicant
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